



# Congressional Summit on Rural America

## **Part I. Rural America:**

The Real, Diverse and Changing Rural America

- demographic, social, cultural and economic conditions and transitions which distinguish rural America today

**The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, Governor of Kansas**

**Delia Perez, Llano Grande Center for Research and Development, Edcouch, TX**

**What issues do Rural Americans care about?**

Results of a telephone survey of rural Americans

**Anna Greenberg, Greenberg, Quinlan, Rosner Research**

**Bill Greener, Greener Hook**

## **Part II. Opportunities and Barriers for Renewing Rural America:**

### **The Federal Role**

Barriers

- Patchwork of federal programs which don't add up to a coherent national rural policy
- Current federal legislative vehicles which don't benefit most rural people
- Inequitable distribution of federal resources, a one size fits all approach and significant lack collaboration across federal agencies

Opportunities

- Flexibility and programs which work across the variety of rural and native communities
- More investment in building capacity of children and families, entrepreneurs, communities, community and regional institutions.
- Cooperation and collaboration by all relevant Congressional Committees and federal agencies, including the authorizers, tax writers and regulators

**Panel**

**Shannon Augare, State Senator, Montana**

**Peter Carey, Executive Director of Self Help Enterprises, Visalia, CA**

**Greg Dent, Community Health Works, Forsyth, GA. )**

**Mark Lloyd, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress, Washington, DC.**

## Organizing Committee

Carsey Institute – University of New Hampshire; The Center for Rural Strategies; CFED; First Nations Development Institute; The Ford Foundation; Local Initiatives Support Corporation; NALEO Educational Fund; National Conference of State Legislatures; National Rural Funders Collaborative; National Rural Health Association; Rural Policy Research Institute; Stand Up for Rural America; W.K. Kellogg Foundation

## Supporting Organizations

Accounting or Health /Garfield County Hospital District Pomeroy, WA; ACF/Arizona Rural Development Council - Phoenix, AZ; Action Communication and Education Reform Duck Hill, MS; Alliance of Forest Workers and Harvesters - Willow Creek, CA; American Forests - Washington, DC; Amigos Bravos Inc. Albuquerque, NM; Appalachian Sustainable Development - Abingdon, VA; Appalachian Women's Alliance Floyd, VA; AR Public Policy Panel - Little Rock, AR; Asset-Based Community Development - Decorah, IA; Association for Enterprise Opportunity (AEO) Arlington, VA; Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living APRIL) - Kent, OH; Bank of America - Kansas City, MO; Beau Chemin Farm - Waldoboro, ME; Big Sky Institute for the Advancement of Nonprofits - Helena, MT; Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center - Marvell, AR; Brushy Fork Institute - Berea, KY; California Indian Basketweavers Association - Hoopa, CA; CAP Services, Inc. Stevens Point, WI; Carolina Alliance for Fair Employment - Greenville, SC; Catholic Community Services - Tucson, AZ; Center for Economic Options - Charleston, WV; Center for Rural Affairs - Center For Rural Strategies - Whitesburg, KY; Children's Defense Fund- Southern Regional Office, Jackson, MS; City of Lockhart, Texas; Coastal Enterprises, Inc. - Wiscasset, ME; Colonias Development Council - Las Cruces, NM; Comité de Bien Estar - San Luis, AZ; Community Access, Inc. South Charleston, WV; Community Connections - Fowler, CO; Community Health Works - Forsyth, GA; Congregation of Holy Cross - Chicago, IL; Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED) - Washington, DC; CT Rural Development Council - Tolland, CT; Daily Yonder - Knoxville, TN; Deep South Delta Consortium - Marks, MS; Delta Citizens Alliance - Greenville, MS; DNA People's Legal Services - Flagstaff, AZ; Enterprise Corporation of the Delta - Jackson, MS; Farmworker Association of Florida, Inc. - Apopka, FL; Fayette County Community Action Agency, Inc. - Uniontown, PA; Federation of Southern Cooperatives/LAF - East Point, GA; Four Directions Development Corporation - Orono, ME; Garrett County Community Action - Oakland, MD; Good News Mountaineer Garage - Charleston, WV; Habitat for Humanity International - Washington, DC; and HandMade in America - Asheville, NC; Hazard Perry County Community Ministries, Inc. - Hazard, KY; Heartland Rural Health Network, Inc. - Avon Park, FL; Highlander Center - New Market, TN; Housing Assistance Council - Washington, DC; Humboldt Area Foundation - Bayside, CA; Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy - Minneapolis, MN; Internal Revenue Service - Atlanta, GA; International Sonoran Desert Alliance - Ajo, AZ; La Union del Pueblo Entero - San Juan, TX; League of Rural Voters - Minneapolis, MN; Llano Grande Center for Research and Development - Edcouch, TX; MACED - Berea, KY; Maine Center for Economic Policy - Augusta, ME; Maine Rural Partners - Orono, ME; Mississippi Action for Community Education, Inc. (MACE) - Greenville, MS; MMCDC - Detroit Lakes, MN; Montana House of Representatives - Great Falls, MT; MS-NAACP / PRTI - Jackson, MS; National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture - Randolph, VT; National Consumer Law Center - Washington, DC; National Network of Forest Practitioners - Athens, OH; National Rural Funders Collaborative - Dallas, TX; National Trust for Historic Preservation - Washington, DC; Native Americans in Philanthropy - Minneapolis, MN; NCSU/NCCES - Raleigh, NC; Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law and the Public Interest - Lincoln, NE; Nebraska Community Foundation - Lincoln, NE; Nebraska Housing Developers Assn. - Lincoln, NE; New Mexico Community Foundation - Santa Fe, NM; Office of the Secretary of State of New Mexico - Santa Fe, NM; New Mexico Voices for Children - Albuquerque, NM; FEDC - Gretna, FL; Northern Forest Center - Concord, NH; Northern Great Plains - Fargo, ND; Northern Initiatives - Marquette, MI; Northwest Area Foundation - St. Paul, MN; NW Montana Human Resources - Kalispell, MT; Ohio Appalachian Educators Institute - Athens, OH; Ohio University's Voinovich School - Athens, OH; OLLAS/University of Nebraska at Omaha - Omaha, NE; People Incorporated - Abingdon, VA; Potlatch Fund - Seattle, WA; Poverty Initiative - New York, NY; RCAP - Washington, DC; Renewing the Countryside - Minneapolis, MN; Rural Action - Trimble, OH; Rural Development Initiatives, Inc. - Eugene, OR; Rural Health Office, UA COPH - Tucson, AZ; Rural Local Initiatives Support Corporation - Washington, DC; Rural Neighborhoods, Inc. - Florida City, FL; Rural Opportunities, Inc. - Rochester, NY; Rural Schools and Community Trust - Arlington, VA; Rural Strategies - Cincinnati, OH; Save the Children - Westport, CT; Self-Help Enterprises - Visalia, CA; Service Employees International Union (SEIU) - Washington, DC; Siete del Norte CDC - Embudo, NM; South County Housing - Gilroy, CA; Southern Rural Development Initiative - Asheville, NC; SRBWI - Augusta, GA; SRBWI - Montgomery, AL; SRDI - Raleigh, NC; Stennis Institute/Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS; Sustainable Northwest - Portland, OR; Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health - College Station, TX; The Daily Yonder - Austin, TX; The Food Trust - Philadelphia, PA; The Forest Guild - Santa Fe, NM; The Watershed Center - Hayfork, CA; UND Center for Rural Health - Grand Forks, ND; University of Alaska Anchorage - Anchorage, AK; University of California - Berkeley, CA; University of Wisconsin Law School - Madison, WI; Virginia Rural Health Association - Blacksburg, VA; Wallowa Resources - Enterprise, OR; Wisconsin Rural Partners - Wisconsin Rapids, WI; Wisconsin Rural Partners, Inc. - Oakdale, WI; Working for Equality and Economic Liberation - Helena, MT; WVU Institute for Health Policy Research - Charleston, WV; YouthBuild USA - Somerville, MA